

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Deputy Director of Training

DATE: 28 May 1957

FROM : Acting Chief, School of International
Communism and the USSR

SUBJECT: Considerations on Cuts in SIC Program

1. The SIC program currently is being conducted by a staff approximately two-thirds that called for by the T/O. Seven instructors, out of a T/O of eleven, are actively participating. An eighth instructor, [redacted] is expected to return from Harvard in September. It's reasonable to assume, therefore, that SIC could absorb a T/O cut of about 30% before any of its current programs would have to be cut back seriously.

2. The SIC T/O was originally designed to meet the requirements of an expanding program, including additional courses for Agency personnel such as a DD/I Strategy and Tactics course and a USSR area course, as well as additional commitments outside of the Agency. I feel certain that with the present staff level SIC could continue to carry out the additional commitments which have, in fact, materialized. The additional Agency courses can definitely be handled, and non-Agency commitments appear, for the present, to have stabilized at a workable level.

3. There has been one major drawback, however, in conducting present programs with a limited staff. Working in this field requires a high degree of familiarity with current developments throughout the entire International Communist Movement. SIC staff members have not had adequate time to carry out this very necessary function. We have managed, but the ground has been rather shaky. This fact, I believe, would preclude SIC from expanding any further than indicated above unless the T/O is filled.

4. In the event that SIC staff should be cut below its present level I believe that the most feasible procedure would be to look toward cutting the level of participation by SIC in other programs, rather than toward elimination of specific SIC courses. Since most staff members participate across the board elimination of particular courses would not thereby eliminate a specific number of staff positions. The following order of priority is tentatively suggested:

Document No. 047IN CHANGE in Class. ☐

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DDA Memo, 14/3/78

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- a. Non-Agency programs involving more than sporadic participation or individual lectures. For example, while continued participation in FSI's "Communist Strategy and Tactics" course could probably be worked out since it involves only a few hours once a month, full days in the FSO EOD course, and FSO Mid-Career Course each month, and three days in ICA every six or seven weeks would be eliminated.
 - b. Clerical Training, one-half day each week.
 - c. Individual tutorial training for Agency personnel, other than emergency cases.
 - d. Special programs for individual offices, such as FDD Area Course.
5. There would remain, then, as SIC's basic program the IOC, CPO&O, ACO, USSR Area Course for general Agency participation, and covert tutorial training.

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What Jack is saying, in effect, is that with eight instructors he can carry on the present program and additional activities which are firmly anticipated. I suggest that we hold his 3 unfilled positions in reserve until the budget inventory is completed, and then decide whether one or more should be reassigned elsewhere.

Jack's budget, aside from 01- Personal Services, contains only two items: \$400⁰⁰ for travel, and \$400⁰⁰ for guest lecturers. This is about as minimal as you can get. I see no need for a hearing with him until you are ready to discuss positions.

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